NHL 23 — Media — Memorial Cup Early Elimination

The Memorial Cup is North American junior hockey’s biggest yearly tournament, where young players compete to show off that they’re worthy of being drafted in the NHL. In this conversation, the player-character has been eliminated early on in the tournament despite being a star player, and the media is interviewing them after the game. The possible media reactions are divided into three categories based on how the player performed in the tournament: Good, Average, and Poor performance. Within those categories are different branches, based on whether the player selects TEAM or STAR responses. Then, the player can choose whether to gain points to spend towards their skills, their likeability meters, or towards getting flashy new abilities.

Good Performance

**Media:** <player name>, you played great out there, but things didn’t go your way. What are your thoughts on where your team fell short in this tournament?

**Player TEAM response:** I think we just had a bad day. We’re human. I may have looked good on the ice, but there’s more I could have done. We’re a team for a reason.

**Player STAR response:** Sometimes even perfection isn’t enough. There’s only so much I can do on my own.

**TEAM BRANCH**

**Media:** That’s very generous of you. Still, it’s sad to see you go so soon. What’ll you be working on in the meantime?

**Player SKILL response:** I have a few skills I want to work on with the team’s help, so we can all be at the top of our game wherever we end up next year.

**Player ABILITY response:** I want to work on a few tricks that’ll help me perform better for any team that drafts me.

**SKILL BRANCH**

**Media:** A solid foundation helps everyone in the long run. Good luck to you all in the draft.

**Player:** Thanks. I’ll pass it on.

**ABILITY BRANCH**

**Media:** We’ll look forward to your elevated play, then. Good luck, <player name>.

**Player:** I appreciate that.

STAR BRANCH

Media: Makes sense. It would have gone a lot worse without you on the team. What are you planning to do with your time now?

**Player BRAND response**: I’ve got a few brand opportunities to work on while the others train.

**Player MANAGEMENT response**: I’m gonna put my skills to work and focus on getting into the NHL.

**BRAND BRANCH**

**Media:** Any brand would be lucky to have you represent them.

**Player:** You’re right about that. If anyone else wants my time, they’d better hurry.

**MANAGEMENT BRANCH**

**Media:** I’m sure there’s a few teams out there with their eyes on you.

**Player:** No doubt. We’ll see who makes the best offer.

Average Performance

**Media:** <player name>, how are you feeling after such an early elimination> Did you get a chance to show off what you can do?

**Player TEAM response:** I didn’t play my best, but it’s not about me showing off. Right now, I’m focused on staying at peak performance while I’m not playing.

**Player STAR response:** Not at all. I was just getting started and we’re already out.

**TEAM BRANCH**

**Media:** That’s very modest of you. But for yourself, is there anything in particular that you’ll be working on?

**Player SKILL response:** I’m gonna focus on rebuilding my foundational skills so I always bring my best game to the ice.

**Player ABILITY response:** I’m gonna work on sharpening my skills to take my performance to the next level.

**SKILL BRANCH**

**Media:** It never hurts to have a stronger foundation. Best of luck to you, <player name>.

**Player:** I appreciate that

**ABILITY BRANCH**

**Media:** That sounds exciting! We’ll look forward to seeing you return with some new tricks up your sleeve, then.

**Player:** Haha, for sure. I’ll show you something good next time.

**STAR BRANCH**

**Media:** It’s a shame to see you go. Is there anything you’ll be working on in the meantime?

**Player BRAND response:** I’m gonna work with a few sponsors to get my name out there.

**Player MANAGEMENT response:** Playing for the NHL has been my dream for a long time. I’m ready to make that a reality.

**BRAND BRANCH**

**Media:** I bet you’ve got a few brands already fighting over you.

**Player:** They can’t get enough of me. My schedule’s packed.

**MANAGEMENT BRANCH**

**Media:** Well, I’ll look forward to seeing you in NHL team colours, then.

**Player:** You won’t be waiting long.

Poor Performance

**Media:** <player name>, I think we can all agree that’s not the performance we expected to see from you. How are you feeling about this early elimination?

**Player TEAM response:** I’m crushed. I really let everyone down. I have to focus on my training so I don’t mess up that bad agan.

**Player STAR response:** Everyone can have a bad day. Achilles had a weakness too, right?

**TEAM BRANCH**

**Media:** Don’t take it too hard. You’re only one person. You mentioned training… what will you be focused on?

**Player SKILL response:** I want to make sure I have a really strong foundation for the next time I’m on the ice.

**Player ABILITY response:** I’m gonna work on sharpening my skills to take my performance to the next level.

**SKILL BRANCH**

**Media:** Well, we’ll look forward to seeing you return even stronger. Thanks, <player name>.

**Player:** I appreciate the vote of confidence. See ya.

**ABILITY BRANCH**

**Media:** Sounds exciting! I can’t wait to see it. Thanks for your time, <player name>.

**Player:** No problem. Hopefully it’ll give me an edge on the ice.

**STAR BRANCH**

**Media:** Good thing your heels are covered, huh? Is there anything you’re planning to do during the offseason?

**Player BRAND response:** I’ve got a few sponsorships lined up to keep me occupied while the team trains.

**Player MANAGEMENT response:** I’m gonna work on getting drafted and getting into some new colours.

**BRAND BRANCH**

**Media:** That’s exciting! You must be pretty in demand, huh?

**Player:** If anyone wants some of this, they’ll have to get in line.

**MANAGEMENT BRANCH**

**Media:** I’m sure it won’t be long. There are a lot of eyes on you right now.

**Player:** Anyone who wants me on their team better hurry. I’m in demand.